

Two-wheeling your way through San Antonio gives you the opportunity to see the sights up close and at your own pace. We've outlined five routes, ranging from a quick spin to those that will require more pedal power.

Bicyclists observe the same traffic regulations as motor vehicles, and we ask that you take all safety precautions, such as signaling turns, wearing a helmet, and braking for pedestrians. Be sure to take water with you, wear sunscreen and lock your bike when parking. Should you and your bike need a lift, hop on a VIA bus with a bike rack.

The highlights you'll pass on each route are listed below. For more information about any of the sites, including maps and brochures, please visit the San Antonio Visitor Center at 317 Alamo Plaza.

Please note that many of these rides mix with urban vehicular traffic.

For additional information, contact:



San Antonio Parks & Recreation 114 West Commerce, Suite 1006 San Antonio, TX 78205 210.207.6124 sanantonio.gov/sapar



San Antonio Convention & Visitors Bureau 203 S. St. Mary's St., Suite 200 San Antonio, TX 78205 210.207.6700 visitsanantonio.com



SAN ANTONIO Office of Environmental Policy BIKES 111 Soledad, Suite 725 San Antonio, TX 78205 Policy 210.207.6321 sanantonio.gov/sabikes



sanantonio.bcvcle.com

#### Alamo HemisFair Out & Back

You'll see some of San Antonio's best-known landmarks on this quick trip around the downtown area.

- Begin at the Alamo and travel west on Houston St., past the Buckhorn Saloon/Texas Rangers Museum, the San Antonio Children's Museum, and the Majestic and Empire Theatres.
- On the west side of Main Plaza is San Fernando Cathedral, the oldest Roman Catholic sanctuary in the U.S. The Bexar County Courthouse occupies the southern end of Main Plaza.
- Head north on Alamo, past The Torch of Friendship and Rivercenter Mall, and you're back to the Alamo.



Turn south on Main and ride into Main Plaza, where you'll find public restrooms and drinking fountains. The Plaza is a great central space for relaxing, people watching and having a bite to eat while sitting on a park bench.



You will pass HemisFair Park which was built to host the 1968 World's Fair. You will also pass the Tower of the Americas.



#### DOWNTOWN BIKE RIDES



### 2 Brackenridge Park Out & Back

Main Plaza, a historic community gathering center in front of San Fernando Cathedral, is a great place to start this ride.

- You'll push north to St. Mary's St., which will take you to your destination, the 344-acre Brackenridge Park.
- Along the way, you'll ride through business districts and residential neighborhoods, encountering a number of popular restaurants and eateries should you want to stop for a bite.
- Brackenridge Park is on a site that once held a rock quarry, a Civil War-era tannery, and a waterworks.
  Land was first donated to the city for the park in 1899.
  Today, park attractions include Brackenridge Park
  Golf Course, the Brackenridge Eagle miniature train,
  San Antonio Zoo, Japanese Tea Gardens, Sunken
  Garden Theater, jogging trails, public art, playgrounds,
  pavilions and athletic fields.

As you leave the park, you'll travel along Avenue B, which is a dedicated, family friendly bike path, and then you'll hit Josephine St. which will lead you to N. Alamo St. which will take you back toward downtown.



The Japanese Tea Gardens feature beautiful floral displays, a waterfall and a safe habitat for new Koi and aquatic plants.

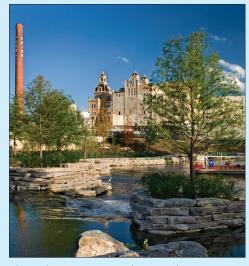


This Brackenridge Park Golf Course was designed in 1915 and is the the oldest 18-hole public course in the state.

## Pearl Brewery Out & Back

The revitalized Pearl Brewery complex is a mixed-use development offering restaurants and shopping along with commercial and residential spaces. The Culinary Institute of America makes its home here, as does the Aveda Institute.

- The brewery, originally founded in 1883, is a premium place for viewing the new Museum Reach section of the River Walk.
- To begin, your route takes you from Main Plaza north through downtown to St. Mary's St., then along Josephine St. to the Pearl.



The Pearl Brewery is a great place to see the new Museum Reach section of the River Walk.



Once home to the brewery's draft horses, Pearl Stable now provides a unique site for various events.



# 4 King William Out & Back

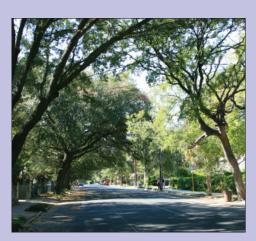
A leisurely roll through the opulent King William Historic District will definitely make you feel like you're traveling back through time. The mansions were built for German business and civic leaders by the city's most prominent architects in the late 1800s, and feature a variety of architectural styles, from Italianate to Romanesque Revival. On this route, cyclists are mixing with urban vehicular traffic, so it's not suggested for children or inexperienced cyclists.

- The Guenther House, now a museum, restaurant and gift shop, was built in 1860 as the residence for the family that founded Pioneer Flour Mills.
- The Steves Homestead Museum showcases the 1876 home built for Edward Steves, founder of the Steves Lumber Company, and it is open to the public.
- Villa Finale, also built in 1876, was renovated by San Antonio preservationist Walter Mathis, who donated it to the National Trust for Historic Preservation (open Fall 2010).
- Your journey will take you past several parks, including the Commander's House Park and King

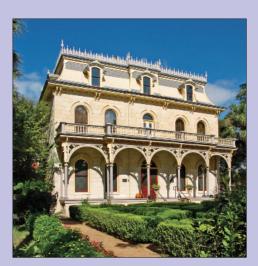
William Park. Don't miss a new pocket park at Crofton and Constance, which provides a perfect resting point on the edge of the San Antonio River.



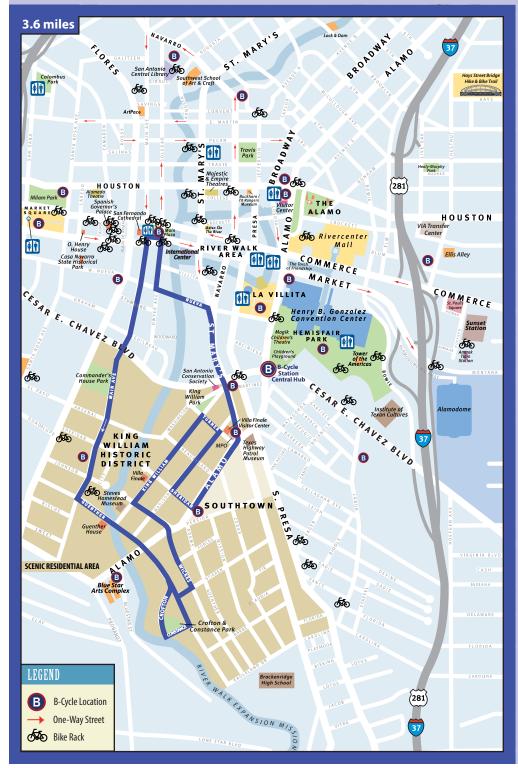
Villa Finale, built in 1876, was renovated by San Antonio preservationist Walter Mathis.



Enjoy a leisurely roll through the artistic King William Historic District.



The Steves Homestead was built in 1876 for Edward Steves, founder of the Steves Lumber Company.





Experienced riders will relish this route along the Mission Trail, which encompasses four Spanish Colonial missions built along the San Antonio River to house Spanish missionaries and local Coahuiltecan Indians beginning in the 1720s.

about 20 miles Along this ride, watch for new trail segments and connections to Mission ALAMO (81) *Trail as improvements are being made.* 87 DOWNTOWN 10 STEVES ANDERBILT erside Course MISSION CONCEPCIÓN Mission SOUTHCROSS County Park MISSION Padre Park SAN JOSÉ SW MILITARY VISITOR ROOSEVELT CENTER SW MILITARY MARCH San Jose Burial Park Acequia Espada E ASHLEY RD MISSION SAN JUAN Mission Trail LEGEND Main Route San Antonio Missions National Alternate Connecting Route Historic Park ■ ■ Trail Under Construction Off Road Bike Facility On Road Bike Facility MISSION ESPADA River

Along this ride, watch for new trail segments and connections to Mission Trail which is undergoing dramatic renovations during the next few years. Watch for trail closures and use an alternate route when necessary. Check for current information at www.sanantonioriver.org.

- Begin your ride at Main Plaza near San Fernando Cathedral and head south on S. Flores St.
- Ride about a block and turn left on E. Nueva St.
- Stay on E. Nueva St. for about half a mile until you reach S. Alamo St.
- Once you reach the area known as Southtown, you will have a couple of route options.



Once arriving at Mission Trail, there is a family friendly off-road multi-use path suitable for all experience levels.

 As you ride, look for signs pointing the way along Mission Trail. Each mission is open to the public and all are part of the National Parks system.

The Visitor Center at Mission San José offers exhibits and a short video about the history of the missions. You'll find water fountains and restrooms at each mission.



Mission Concepción stands proudly as the oldest unrestored stone church in the U.S.



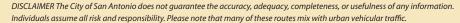
Mission Espada is one of the five Spanish Colonial missions built along the San Antonio River.

### 6 East Side Out & Back

Start at the Tower of the Americas in HemisFair Park. Take the Alamodome walkway under I-37, once you come up on the Alamodome, turn left onto Hoefgen.

#### Along this ride you will pass:

- Historic Sunset Station, a meticulously restored 1902 train depot that now serves as an entertainment venue.
- Ellis Alley, one of the first sections of the city to be settled by African-Americans after the Civil War.
- Hays St. Bridge Hike and Bike Trail, a Union Pacific Railroad track dating back to the 1880s and now a pedestrian and bicycle friendly facility.
- City Cemetery District, the place to see the burial sites of some of San Antonio's early movers and shakers





The historic Hays St. Bridge is now a pedestrian and bicycle facility.

